

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

25 May 1984

BOOK

BY GREGORY GORDON

WASHINGTON

Telephone logs from the 1980 Reagan campaign suggest have obtained military intelligence on the movement of U.S. hostages in Iran from a Senate aide, a House subcommittee report says.

The hostage information, found in the logs of Reagan campaign adviser Richard Allen, is mentioned in the same notes in which Allen scrawled the telephone number of Angelo Codevilla, a Republican aide to the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Allen's telephone logs apparently quoted Defense Intelligence Agency data reporting that the 52 hostages had been returned to the U.S. Embassy compound in Tehran. Such data apparently was considered "embargoed" -- or secret.

After stating Codevilla's name and phone number, the notes read, "DIA-Hostages-all back in compound, last week. Admin. embargoed intelligence. Confirmed."

The notes, described in the voluminous report of a House Post Office and Civil Service subcommittee released Wednesday, support investigators' theories that the Reagan campaign was gathering data on developments in Iran to try to head off an "October surprise" by President Carter.

Reagan aides have acknowledged that they were worried a surprise announcement, such as the release of U.S. hostages, might swing the election.

Neither Allen nor Codevilla, who works for Sen. Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., on the Senate Intelligence Committee, could explain Allen's notes on the hostage situation, according to the report of the subcommittee headed by Rep. Donald Albosta, D-Mich.

The report noted that Allen said he had "thinned out his files" during an office renovation before the subcommittee investigation.

Codevilla could not be reached for comment Thursday.

In an interview with subcommittee investigators, Codevilla acknowledged being aware that active agents of the CIA worked for George Bush's primary presidential campaign, before he became Reagan's running mate, the report said.

He provided the subcommittee with a sworn affidavit May 9, making him one of the last of more than 60 persons to submit sworn testimony to the panel.

The report said Codevilla told investigators "he did not provide the Reagan-Bush campaign with information 'embargoed' by the Carter administration or information from the Defense Intelligence Agency or any other government intelligence body."

Continued